

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO USDEL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5512

S E C R E T AMMAN 5848

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, US, XF

SUBJ: MESSAGE FOR KING, TALK WITH RIFAI

REFS: (A) SECTO 10271 (B) AMMAN 5845

1. HAD OPPORTUNITY FOR SHORT TALK WITH RIFAI MORNING
SEPTEMBER 2. DELIVERED TO HIM COPY OF MESSAGE REFTEL (A).

2. WE DISCUSSED BRIEFLY PRESENT SITUATION. HE SAID AGREEMENT
IS FINE WITH JORDAN AND MEETS ITS SHORT-TERM INTERESTS
ADMIRABLY. WHAT HE IS WORRIED ABOUT NOW IS THAT MOMENTUM
WILL STOP AND OVER LONG TERM JORDAN WILL BE SUCKED
INTO INEVITABLE CONFLICT WHICH MUST OCCUR IF NO FURTHER
PROGRESS IS MADE. EGYPT HAS PAID TOO HIGH A PRICE
IS STILL RECURRENT THEME, ALTHOUGH HE IS PREPARED TO ADMIT
THAT ISRAELI CALCULATIONS ABOUT EGYPT, ITS PRESENT
POSITION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PARTICIPATION IN
A WAR HAVE NOT REALLY CHANGED.

3. HE SAID ASHRAF MARWAN'S VISIT HERE, CONTRARY TO
EGYPTIAN INTERPRETATION, WAS A REAL BUST. MARWAN ARGUED THAT
ROAD TO ABU RODIES WHICH IS TO BE USED ALTERNATLEY BY
EGYPT AND ISRAEL IS BETTER DEAL FOR EGYPT SINCE EGYPT
WOULD NOT PERMIT ISRAELIS TO BUILD A PERMANENT

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INSTALLATION, SUCH AS A SECOND ROAD, IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

SIMILARLY MARWAN ARGUED THAT EGYPT WANTED A WARNING STATION OF ITS OWN AND THEREFORE ASKED ISRAELIS TO STAY ON AT THEIR STATION IN RETURN.

4. RIFAI RECONFIRMED FOR ME LIST OF ITEMS OF BILATERAL CHARACTER HE WANTS TO TAKE UP - PL-480, BUDGET SUPPORT, MILITARY SUPPLY AND AID QUESTIONS COVERED IN REFTEL (B). ON HAWKS HE SAYS WITH PRESENT AGREEMENT AND LARGE LEVEL OF AID TO ISRAEL IT IS ALMOST UNTHINKABLE THAT CONGRESS COULD BLOCK HAWK SALE AND HE IS MUCH MORE OPTIMISTIC.

5. RIFAI ADDED THAT SYRIA AND JORDAN HAD BOTH AGREED TO MAKE NO PUBLIC COMMENT ON INTERIM AGREEMENT IN AN EFFORT TO BE COOPERATIVE.
PICKERING

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